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24th September, 1904.

Dear Mr. De Rusett,

I have your letter of the 22nd instant, which unfortunately crossed with our Secretary's letter dealing with the same subject.

As you now appear to revert to your first estimate of the bending moment, viz:- 960,000 feet tons, there is a considerable difference between your estimate and that of the other Builders.

As these vessels are practically of identical designs, and as the conditions assumed for the strength calculations are identical, the bending moments ought to be identical. Would it not therefore be better for you and the other Builders to clear up what the difference is due to, and, if possible, to agree to the same figure. If you find this impossible I think you ought to send us a tracing of your bending moment curve, and I have asked Mr. Luke to do the same. We should then be able to see what it is we are doing if we adopt the mean of the two estimates for the bending moment.

With regard to the moment of resistance, we estimate



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that on the scantlings of your last submitted section at 95,860.
The intercostal plates in the double bottom are included
from bottom angle to top angle without any deduction for the
manholes, as this has not been done in the previous calculations
adopted as a basis of comparison.

Would it not be desirable in the meantime to confine
the estimates of the stress to mild steel scantlings so as
not to confuse the issue?

28
(51.2)



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